




COLLECTIONS AND HOBBIES



RATIONALE FOR ADVENTURE

Everywhere we look, we see collections. A collection of plants is a garden; a collection of cows is a herd. And any group of objects that are similar and special to you counts as a collection, too. That collection tells others what you find interesting, and as you expand the collection, you gain new skills and understanding.

TAKEAWAYS FOR CUB SCOUTS

- Enthusiasm for starting a collection
- Cooperation and showing respect for others
- Completing a task
- Listening skills
- A Scout is courteous. 

Wolf Handbook, page 164

ADVENTURE REQUIREMENTS

Complete the following requirements.

1. Begin a collection of 10 items that all have something in common. Label the items and title your collection.
2. Share your collection at a den meeting.
3. Complete one of the following and tell your den what you learned:
 - A. Visit a show or museum that displays different collections or models.
 - B. Watch a webcast or other media presentation about collecting or model building.
4. Complete one of the following:
 - A. Create an autograph book, and get 10 autographs. Start with members of your den.
 - B. With your parent's or guardian's permission, pick a famous living person, and write him or her a letter. In your letter, ask the person to send you an autographed photo.

NOTES TO DEN LEADER

Meeting 3 will be a den outing to a show or museum that displays different collections or models (requirement 3A). You will need to schedule the outing in advance. Work with families to plan transportation to and from the location. Make sure activity consent forms are distributed and signed.

For requirement 3B, be sure there is an internet connection available. To complete this requirement, you may meet at a local public library that has free internet access.

See the appendix for optional den meeting activities, including openings, gatherings, and closings.

MEETING 1 PLAN

PREPARATION AND MATERIALS NEEDED

- U.S. and den flags
- Materials for "Tape Web" (Gathering): painter's tape; pom-poms
- Materials for "Autograph Books" (Activity 2): white paper; construction paper or card stock for covers; colored pencils; stapler or brads

- Materials for “Clothespin Collection Tag” (Activity 3): clothespins marked with a different color for each Scout (number of pins can vary, but the minimum is six.)
- Samples of collections
- Activity consent forms for den outing

GATHERING: TAPE WEB

- Create a web that crisscrosses an open space or hallway, using painter’s tape (the type that will not stick to walls or lift paint). Make sure that there are large enough openings for Scouts to crawl through or step over.
- Attach colored pom-poms to the sticky side of the tape.
- As everyone arrives for the meeting, assign a pom-pom color to each Cub Scout and have them work their way through the web, collecting their color as they go. Warn them to be careful and not get caught in the web!
- If part of the web comes down during the activity, simply put it back up.

OPENING

- Conduct a flag ceremony of your choosing that includes the Pledge of Allegiance and the Scout Oath and Scout Law.
- Briefly explain to the den that the Scout Law is a collection of values by which we live.

TALK TIME

- Introduce the Collections and Hobbies adventure to the den. Build interest and excitement by describing the goals of the adventure and some of the fun activities that are planned.
- Carry out business items for the den.
- Allow time for sharing among Cub Scouts.

ACTIVITIES

◆ Activity 1: Planning a Collection (Optional)

- Share with Scouts the sample collections you brought to the meeting.
- Have them share about collections that they own or want to start. These could include—but are not limited to—types of toys, models, rocks, or drawings. Each Scout should bring a small collection from home to share at the next meeting (requirement 2).
- Demonstrate ways that different types of collections may be displayed.

◆ Activity 2: Autograph Books (Requirement 4A)

- Have Scouts assemble and decorate their autograph books. They can get their first signatures from fellow den members. Then have them brainstorm on ways each den member can gather other signatures.
- Assembling the books may be a simple project, or you can make it elaborate, depending on the supplies you have available. To make the simplest type:
 - Fold a sheet of card stock or construction paper in half to make a cover.
 - Fold sheets of construction or printer paper in half and fit them inside the cover.
 - To bind the book, staple the sheets along the fold, or punch holes and use brads to fasten the sheets together.

◆ Activity 3: Clothespin Collection Tag (OPTIONAL)

- See the suggestions for this activity in the *Wolf Handbook*.
- If weather conditions prevent playing this game outside, consider having everyone use animal movements, such as duck waddles or crab walks, to chase one another.

CLOSING: DEN LEADER MOMENT

Say: "Collections are a wonderful way to look at the world around you. When collecting from nature, remember that it is always best to leave the beauty you find for others to see—especially plants and flowers—but you can draw them or take a picture. I am really looking forward to seeing the collections that you bring and learning more about the things that interest you."



Do-at-Home Project Reminder:

Remind Wolves to begin a collection at home of at least 10 items (requirement 1). They will bring this collection, or another one, to share at the next meeting (requirement 2). They should be prepared to answer these questions: Why did you choose those items to collect? Where did you find the items? How will you add to your collection?

Also for the next meeting, Scouts should think about the famous person they want to write to and find the mailing address online—with permission and assistance from their parent or guardian (requirement 4B).

AFTER THE MEETING

- Serve refreshments, if desired.
- Record completion of requirement 4A.
- Work together to clean up the meeting place.
- Prepare thank-you notes for the Wolves to sign at the next meeting.

MEETING 2 PLAN

PREPARATION AND MATERIALS NEEDED

- U.S. and den flags
- Materials for "Scout Law Scavenger Hunt" (Gathering): all 12 points of the Scout Law, written individually on slips of paper and hidden around the room; tape; a poster board with the words "A Scout is" written at the top
- Paper, pens, envelopes, and stamps for writing and sending a letter (Activity 2)
- Materials for "Sensory Scavenger Hunt" (Activity 3): a variety of objects chosen for a distinctive texture and shape; a list of all the objects (one copy per Scout); pencils; and paper bags. Hide each object—wrapped in a closed paper bag—outside or in a different room from the one where the Scout Law Scavenger Hunt will be played.

GATHERING

- Hide the Scout Law words around the room. As Wolves arrive for the meeting, have each of them find two words. They must not tell anyone the words they found.
- When all 12 words have been found, bring everyone together and have them tape their words on the poster board in the correct order of the Scout Law: A Scout is trustworthy, loyal, helpful, friendly, courteous, kind, obedient, cheerful, thrifty, brave, clean, and reverent.

OPENING

- Conduct a flag ceremony of your choosing that includes the Pledge of Allegiance and the Scout Oath and Scout Law.

TALK TIME

- Carry out business items for the den.
- Allow time for sharing among Cub Scouts.
- Assign buddies for the den outing.

ACTIVITIES

◆ Activity 1: Personal Collections (Requirements 1 and 2)

Have Scouts share the collection they brought and have them tell why they chose to collect those items, where they found them, and how they plan to add to the collection.

◆ Activity 2: Writing to a Famous Person (Requirement 4B)

- Hand out paper and pens for the Scouts to write their letters.
- Provide a template, using the example in the Meeting 2 Resources or one you prepared yourself.
- Be sure an adult leader and the den chief are available during this activity to help if anyone has any trouble composing their letters.
- If you cannot find an address for a Cub Scout's first choice, you may need to help identify another person.

◆ Activity 3: Sensory Scavenger Hunt (Optional)

- Give each Scout a copy of the list and a pencil. When they locate one of the bags, have them close their eyes, reach inside to feel around, and put a check mark next to the object they think it is.
- When everyone has finished their search, display the contents of each bag so they can see if their guesses were correct.

CLOSING

- Make sure Scouts each know who their buddy will be during the den outing.
- Confirm plans for the following meeting's den outing to a show or museum where collections are displayed. Make sure all transportation needs are covered.

AFTER THE MEETING

- Serve refreshments, if desired.
- Record completion of requirements 1, 2, and 4B.
- Work together to clean up the meeting place.
- Have Scouts sign thank-you notes for anyone who helps with the outing.

MEETING 2 RESOURCES

[Today's date]

[Mr./Mrs./Miss/Dr. and the person's full name]

Street address

City, state, zip code]

[Greeting],

[First, tell the person why you are writing a letter. Be polite. Then, tell why you enjoy what the person does or how you support what they do. Tell a little about yourself, too, and that you are working on your Wolf rank in Cub Scouts. Finally, say that you would appreciate it if they could send you a photo. Explain that you have enclosed a self-addressed, stamped envelope for them to send you the photo. End by thanking them for their time.]

Sincerely,

[Your signature]

[Your name]

Your street address or PO box

City, state, zip code]

MEETING 3 PLAN (DEN OUTING)

PREPARATION AND MATERIALS NEEDED

- U.S. and den flags
- Confirm that transportation to and from the event is in place. Secure activity consent forms.
- The unit den leader should bring a copy of the *Guide to Safe Scouting*.

GATHERING

- Play a game of "I Spy" while waiting for everyone to arrive.
- Remind everyone that it is important to stay together, be on their best behavior, and use the buddy system. Have Wolves share things they would like to learn during the visit.
- Review any questions the Scouts want to ask to make certain all are appropriate.

OPENING

- Conduct a flag ceremony of your choosing that includes the Pledge of Allegiance and the Scout Oath and Scout Law.
- Recite the Scout Law and ask Scouts to name points of the law they will demonstrate during the outing.

TALK TIME

- Carry out business items for the den.
- Allow time for sharing among Cub Scouts.

ACTIVITIES

◆ Activity 1: Visit to Show or Museum (Requirement 3)

- Visit the facility as a group, and take a guided tour if possible.
- Engage Scouts by having them identify different types of collections.
- Have Scouts ask the questions they have prepared.
- When the tour ends, have the Wolves give their thank-you cards to anyone who helped, including tour guides. Then offer a relay clap for the guides: The first Cub Scout claps the second Scout's hand, and the clap is then relayed through the group.

CLOSING

- Have the den members form a friendship circle: All arms are crossed with each person extending their right arm over their left and grasping the left hand of the person beside them. Everyone makes a silent wish and gently passes a friendship squeeze from hand to hand.
- Ask Wolves to describe a favorite exhibit and why they thought it was best.

AFTER THE MEETING

- Serve refreshments, if desired.
- Record completion of requirement 3.
- Work together to clean up the meeting place.

Upon completion of the Collections and Hobbies adventure, your Wolves will have earned the adventure loop shown here. Make sure they are recognized for their completion by presenting the adventure loops, to be worn on their belts, as soon as possible according to your pack's tradition.

